

Informational Notes for EMDs and Local Officials

Bulletin #8 – March 28, 2002

Terrorism National Issues Update

Missouri Homeland Security Advisor, Tim Daniel, shared the following information following a conference call with US Homeland Security Advisor Gov. Tom Ridge on March 21.

- 1) Congress has not yet passed planning money for First Responder initiative. Congress has reaffirmed the expectation that states will receive money to hire contractors to help build the state plans.
 - 2) The White House appreciates the states support for the Homeland Security Advisory System.
 - 3) The TSA will assume airport security duties from the National Guard on May 31.
- 4) US Department of Agriculture will receive \$328 Million to prepare against agricultural terrorism. USDA has not indicated how much, if any, money will go to the states.
 - 5) The White House wants model legislation for rules related to issuance of driver's license.
 - 6) State Homeland Security Advisors will meet in Washington in late April.
- 7) The Department of Transportation is developing Port Plans. The White House is checking to see if these plans are applicable for Mississippi River ports.
- 8) Department of Transportation will be providing grant money to Missouri airports. Daniel reports that Lambert (St. Louis) will receive \$2,739,150; Kansas City International will receive \$1,057,659; Joplin Regional will receive \$169,226; and Cape Girardeau Airport will receive \$26,340.

January Ice Disaster Update

Activity related to MO DR 1403 (January Ice Disaster) continues at a rapid pace. **As of close of business on March 25**, 17,644 individuals have registered with FEMA for assistance. These registrations have resulted in the disbursement of \$2,851,437 for assistance to individuals.

Two hundred twenty-nine (229) public assistance projects for debris removal have been received. It is estimated that the total cost of assistance with these projects will be approximately \$76 million.

SEMA received letters of interest (which contain brief project descriptions) from 16 jurisdictions for participation in the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP). SEMA in conjunction with FEMA are currently reviewing these potential projects for eligibility in the HMGP. This review should be completed within the next few months.

Animal Emergency Disaster Annex Completed

SEMA in conjunction with the Missouri Department of Agriculture, Division of Animal Health completed an Animal Emergency Disaster Annex to the State of Missouri Emergency Operations Plan. This annex takes into consideration all hazards involving animals including responding to an animal disease emergency such as foot and mouth disease. Other issues dealing with domestic/companion animals and wildlife are under development and will be included in the annex at a later date. A copy of Annex W has been placed on SEMA's web page (www.sema.state.mo.us) under publications. When local emergency management directors begin writing their Animal Emergency Annex, they might want to have local veterinarians help with the local annex.

Karen Libbert Works with SLA Communities

Karen Libbert will be working with 86 State/Local Assistance (SLA) program participants. She replaces Noma Davis, who retired on January 1. Participants must submit the second quarter statements of work and quarterly claims by April 15. Quarterly Deadlines for SLA participants are January 15, April 15, July 15 and November 1. Participants must submit training and exercise information to remain in good standing in the program.

Field Area Coordinators Receive Satellite Phones

SEMA Area Coordinators Dereck Lohner (St. Louis/Central East), Rick Jordan (Kansas City/Central West), Candance Adams (Springfield/Southwest Missouri) and Mark Winkler (Cape Girardeau/Southeast Missouri) have been issued satellite phones. During a disaster if all communications capabilities are disrupted, an area coordinator may be available to operate their satellite phone in a local EOC as an interim communications tool until a more robust communications system can be reinstated. If an area coordinator is a participant in a local exercise, these satellite phones may be used to contact the State EOC during the drill.

SEMA Staff Receives Word Training

During March, SEMA staff received training in Word. SEMA's documents now will be compatible with other state government and local jurisdiction documents. Once the training is completed, staff will begin creating all new documents in word. Also, staff will be converting older documents and all plans from Word Perfect into Word. While Word and Word Perfect are similar, conversion of some of the graphs and illustrations may take some manipulation or may simply need to be recreated. Bear with us as we begin the transition from WordPerfect to Word.

April Elections, New Officials

The April elections may change county or city elected leaders. Please contact your SEMA Area Coordinator with the names of newly elected officials. This information is used for plan updates, meetings (such as the spring conference or elected officials workshops), training and in disasters.

Rules on Political Activity

State and local employees (this includes SLA participants) in federally aided program must keep the following three things in mind:

- 1) You may not use your official authority for the purpose of interfering with or affecting the result of an election;
- 2) You may not directly or indirectly coerce, attempt to coerce, command or advise a State or local officer or employee to pay, lend, or contribute anything of value to a party, committee, organization, agency or person for political purposes; or
- 3) You may not be a candidate for public elective office in a partisan primary, general or special election. Other types of partisan political campaigning and management, which were previously prohibited, are now permitted.

Law Enforcement Response to WMD Class

The Law Enforcement Response to WMD conducted by Louisiana State University (LSU) still has openings. The Class will be conducted April 23-24 at the SEOC in Jefferson City. Law Enforcement Response to WMD Class is POST certified. POST certification candidates will receive 1.5 hours in legal study, 12 hours in technical study and 2.5 hours in interpersonal perspectives. This class is an awareness level course designed to prepare federal, state and local law enforcement personnel to perform safely and effectively during incidents involving WMD. The course is free and you may register on-line, fax in your application to 573-634-7966 or call Susan Rhodes in training at 573-526-9121.

Training Calendar Input Wanted for FY 2003

SEMA's State Training Officer Jim Charrier is beginning to schedule classes for the SEMA training calendar for Fiscal Year 2003 (beginning on October 1, 2002). Any requests for classes (either regionally or at SEMA) need to be submitted through your Area Coordinator no later than May 1. All requests for classes and locations will be seriously considered. Charrier hopes to publish the Training Schedule sometime in July so that EMDs can plan to attend a number of sessions beginning in October.

Department of Justice (DOJ) Grant Background Information For FY99/00/01 Grant Program

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Expectations for the FY02/03 Grant Program

Money for St. Louis and Kansas City was provided under the Nunn-Lugar-Domenici Program. Money for the grant program under DOJ first became available in FY99. As of this date, all of the grant money has been obligated for:

Missouri Highway Patrol Special Emergency Response Teams Missouri Highway Patrol Explosives Unit

Springfield/Greene County

Logan-Rogersville Fire Protection District

Capitol Police Missouri Task Force 1 Columbia/Boone County

Jefferson City/Cole County

The DOJ required all the states to submit a three-year Statewide Domestic Preparedness Strategy (SDPS) by Dec 31, 2001. This was necessary to receive consideration for FY00 and FY01 grant money. Our plan was submitted and approved by DOJ on Dec. 21, 2002. We have submitted the grant application to the DOJ and are currently waiting final approval. The grant money for FY00/01 was combined by DOJ into one grant of \$2.876 million. The impact of achieving the 3-year SDPS goal will result in approximately 87% of the planned distribution of response equipment will cover 90% of the state population. Grant distribution is as follows:

St. Charles County

Jefferson County

St. Louis City Kirksville/Adair County

Jefferson City/Cole County Kansas City

St. Louis County
Jackson County
Buchanan County

Joplin Camdenton/Camden County

Cape Girardeau/Sikeston/Poplar Bluff/Cape Girardeau County

In March 2000, (FY99), a large group of responders from both the state and local level met in our EOC to develop a standard package for issuance of equipment to local jurisdictions. That standard package was developed for Hazmat teams, Emergency Medical System personnel and Law Enforcement personnel. The package included personal protective equipment items, detection equipment and decontamination equipment. For each jurisdiction, we are purchasing a mobile, self-contained decontamination system with a flow through rate of 1200 individuals per hour. We are also purchasing a larger unit with a flow rate of 3600 individuals per hour. All units are made by the same company allowing us a great deal of inter-operability among teams throughout the state.

This is the standard issue for teams in a city/county/area response. The cost of this package is in the neighborhood of \$250,000. That can be adjusted a little upward or downward depending the specifics of the jurisdictions. This does not allow enough funding for providing the same package to a city and then a county, except in the two-major Metropolitan areas. All the items for FY99 are on order; most has not been received, except for the decontamination units. We are currently awaiting funds for FY00/01.

Methodology included a focus on those areas that have HAZMAT teams or are developing HAZMAT Teams. Per the guidance from the Department of Justice application instructions that the Decontamination Unit identified above can only be purchased for a Jurisdiction that has trained to the HAZMAT Technician level.

Future DOJ Funding FY02/03

FY02: Grant award totals to the states have not been released, nor has an application package been made available to the states. Based upon the events of 9-11 a supplemental appropriations bill was approved. Total grant amounts to the states and the application package have not been released. As of this time, the grant will be administered by the DOJ through the states (SEMA) in the same fashion as the FY99-01 grant program (highly accountable and equipment restrictive in nature).

FY03: As of this time, very little is known concerning the administration of the estimated \$3.5 billion First Responder grant monies. From what we can determine there are four (4) categories being identified, planning, training, equipment, and exercises. The rules for the implementation of the grant have not been released nor has the grant award for each state been released. We expect that the FEMA will administer this grant through SEMA.

For more information about DOJ grants contact Tom Mohr, Public Safety Manager, Homeland Defense & Domestic Terrorism, SEMA, 573-526-9245 or by email at tmohr@sema.state.mo.us

Allbaugh Testifies before House sub-committee

On March 3, FEMA Director Joe Allbaugh testified before the House Appropriations Subcommittee on VA-HUD, and the Independent Agencies hearing. He made several key points including the importance of FEMA's expanding role for training, exercising and equipment purchasing for state and local governments. He explained that FEMA responded to 45 major disasters and 11 emergency declarations in the last year. His vision for FEMA is to set the standard for the nation's first responders. This new mission would only supplement the traditional mitigation and flood protection missions.

FEMA has been appropriated \$6.4 billion for 9/11 and currently at least \$1billion has been obligated. FEMA intends to have the remaining amount obligated by the beginning of Fiscal Year 2003. Additionally, FEMA plans to ask for a supplemental request for this year. FEMA will include in this request \$1 billion in grants to state and local governments as the first extension of the proposed First Responder Grant program to get the funds out to states and locals as soon as possible.... nothing specific has been requested for New York at this time.

Ohio Representative David Hobson asked Allbaugh about the insufficient funding for core emergency management functions for state and local programs. He specifically asked if FEMA had considered the capacity of state and local responders to handle the influx of funding? He also asked if FEMA would use the EMPG program to help upgrade emergency management functions since there had been no funding increases in a decade?

Allbaugh stated he would look at the EMPG program. He felt that FEMA would design a distribution method for and with states to disburse funds. He also stated that EMPG was a separate issue that should not be taken from the \$3.5 billion First Responder initiative.